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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/711,323

11/09/2000

Alfonso de Jesus Valdes

10454-014002

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08/15/2006

PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, LLP

SRI INTERNATIONAL

595 SHREWSBURY AVENUE

SUITE 100

SHREWSBURY, NJ 07702

EXAMINER

MOORTHY, ARAVIND K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2131

DATE MAILED: 08/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to the RCE filed on 30 May 2006.
2. Claims 1-5 are pending in the application.
3. Claims 1-5 have been rejected.
4. Claims 6-9 have been cancelled.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

5. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 30 May 2006 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

6. The applicant has cancelled claims 6-9. With the cancellation of claims 6-9, there are no issues with double patenting.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nine et al U.S. Patent No. 6,560,611 B1.

As to claim 1, Nine et al discloses a method for correlating a first sensor to a second sensor in an intrusion detection system, the first and second sensors each maintaining belief over a number of possible states of the system, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) transmitting to the first sensor information about the second sensor's belief state, the belief state indicating a state of at least one system resource or service [column 3 line 50 to column 4 line 5]; and

(b) adjusting a prior belief state of the first sensor, the belief state indicating a state of at least one system resource or service, the adjustment is based at least in part on the second sensor's belief state [column 5 line 60 to column 6 line 9].

As to claim 2, Nine et al discloses that the first and second sensors are different types of sensors [column 3 line 50 to column 4 line 5].

As to claim 4, Nine et al discloses a method of reducing false alarms generated by an intrusion detection system when a monitored resource is degraded or compromised, the intrusion

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detection system having a first and second sensors each maintaining belief over a number of possible states of the system, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) transmitting to the first sensor all or part of the belief of the second sensor regarding an apparent normal, degraded or compromised state of a monitored resource [column 3 line 50 to column 4 line 5]; and

(b) adjusting a prior belief state of the first sensor so that an erroneous transaction with the degraded or compromised resource does not generate an alarm [column 5 line 60 to column 6 line 9].

As to claim 5, Nine et al discloses a method of enhancing the sensitivity of an intrusion detection system that monitors a plurality of computer system resources, the intrusion detection system having a first and second sensors each maintaining belief over a number of possible states of the system, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) transmitting to the first sensor all or part of the belief of the second sensor regarding the existence or validity of services supported on monitored computer system resources [column 3 line 50 to column 4 line 5]; and

(b) adjusting a prior belief state of the first sensor so that an attempted communication with a nonexistent system service or resource appears suspicious [column 5 line 60 to column 6 line 9].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nine et al U.S. Patent No. 6,560,611 B1 as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Timm U.S. Patent No. 5,440,498.

As to claim 3, Nine et al does not teach that the first sensor is a probabilistic sensor.

Timm teaches a probabilistic sensor in intrusion detection systems [column 5, lines 7-46].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Nine et al so that the first sensor would have been a probabilistic sensor.

It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Nine et al by the teaching of Timm because it provides that ability to compare the effectiveness of any security element or group of elements of the security system with another element or group of elements. Not only does this method reveal the less effective security elements of a system, but also it can be employed to evaluate whether proposed additions to a security system would enhance protection of the facility and, if so, by how much [column 2, lines 16-29].

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Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aravind K. Moorthy whose telephone number is 571-272-3793. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R. Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Aravind K Moorthy
August 9, 2006



AYAZ SHEIKH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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